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3728

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: BACQUES et al.
Serial No.: 09/980,925
Filed: 18 October 2001

Examiner: unknown
Group Art Unit: unknown
Docket: 11027.25USWO

RECEIVED
MAR 18 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Title: CRATE, SET OF BLANKS, AND METHOD FOR OPENING A CRATE AND METHOD AND MACHINE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SAID CRATE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Office of Initial Patent Examination, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 22 February 2002.

By: 
Heidi Hanson

Office of Initial Patent Examination
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231


Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

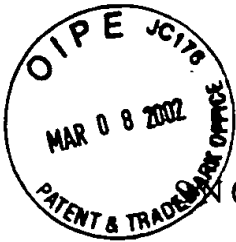
- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 10 Reference(s)
- ☒ Other: International Search Report
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: John J. Gresens
Reg. No.: 33,112
JJG:hjh





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By:

Heidi Hanson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

Applicant hereby brings attention to the Examiner that the references listed were cited in an International Search Report dated 1 August 2000. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. Since the International Search Report is in English, no English translation of the listed foreign references is required, pursuant to MPEP §609(A)3.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

An English abstract is provided for the following references: EP 0 637 548 A1;
DE 196 23 768 A; and FR 2 761 342 A.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

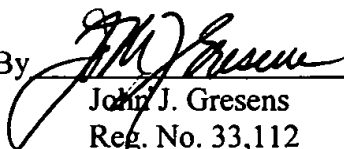
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
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(612) 332-5300

Dated: 22 February 2002

By 
John J. Gresens
Reg. No. 33,112

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